

Unity Lincoln
135 N. 31st St.
P.O. Box 30209
Lincoln, NE 68503

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 319
Lincoln, NE

*The light of God surrounds us
The Love of God enfolds us
The Power of God protects us
The Presence of God watches
over us.
Wherever we are ...God IS
And all is well.*

Blessings To:

August 2017

OUR CORE VALUES

LOVE

We are a nurturing community connecting with all from caring hearts and compassion.

SPIRITUALITY

We consciously connect with Spirit and allow it to guide us. We affirm this Divinity within all creation.

JOY

We delight in and encourage our deeply centered happiness.

GRATITUDE

We recognize, rejoice in, and give thanks for all of God's gifts.

INCLUSIVENESS

We embrace each person as a unique expression of God.

Daily Inspiration: Dial-A-Prayer
(402) 476-7172

www.unity.org/prayer/request-prayer

Visit us at www.unitylincoln.org,
email office@unitylincoln.org,

or phone (402) 476-6887

OUR VISION FOR UNITY LINCOLN

- We have a beautiful facility that is receptive and responsive to the needs and desires of our congregation.
- We have an abundance of resources to accomplish our mission with ease.
- We support a minister who exemplifies the Unity Principles and our Core Values, with the capacity to recognize and maximize the strengths and talents of congregants and stimulate individual spiritual growth.
- We have an equally shared, healthy, and productive relationship between the congregation, board, and minister resulting in effective governance of our community.
- We provide transforming and positive programs for people of all ages for increased spiritual development.
- We practice our spiritual awakening through service and action within the congregation, community, and beyond.
- We are well-known in the Lincoln area as a healthy, thriving, spiritual community that welcomes all.



135 N. 31st St.
Lincoln, Nebraska

August 2017

MINISTER'S LETTER

Well, we're in the heat of summer and lots of things are buzzing around here. Spend a little time reading your newsletter and check it out! Find out about the Solar Eclipse Party at Unity Lincoln! Join a new class! Meet new people at ACIM!

Last Sunday the Music Team presented "Bound for Greater Things," a contemporary anthem. Singers Janet Carlson, Paul Fox, Fred Berry, Rev. Toni and Rev. Evan, Musical Director joined with Pianist Svetlana Yashirin to present the music. The group has been developing considerable skills as evidenced by the complexity of the song.

"Bound for Greater Things" is a powerful piece. The words say: "Drawn by dreams and led by visions... We will leave the past behind... We are bound for greater things... bound to walk a higher road." When we move toward our dreams, led by our vision... we come to know "the grace of God;" the grace of God meaning the good of God. The song created a powerful jumping off place for the talk.

I was able to use the song to talk about "the higher road," meaning our higher consciousness and about Jesus' teachings: "Ask and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you." Metaphorically, Jesus is saying: "the Father, God, wants us to have good in our lives." Our task is to raise our consciousness to ask, seek, and knock to find the door open. We must be open and receptive to receive. As we are told in the book of Thomas (saying 113) "The kingdom of the Father is spread out upon the earth, and people do not see it."



It is important for us to remember this Truth. We are bound for greater things. Our good is everywhere available for us; we must relax and present ourselves. We cannot win by fighting or struggling. The solution is ease and grace, "the Grace of God."

This is so important for us to remember as we "ask, seek, knock and open" to our new church home. The right and perfect new spiritual place will be revealed to us and everything will unfold. Our task is to step forward as God in Action and do our part.

We are strengthening from within. The Board of Trustees is working with a trainer and coach named Kevin Hagemoser. Kevin is helping us discern our path ahead. We are ready to move. We need financial clarity. We need to purchase within our means. We need **you** to bring new people to join us on Sunday and during the week's activities. And we need to BE God in Action! When the time is right we need to move!

Mary Morrissey says: "When we say to the Universe that we are willing to make a shift, and we say it with conviction, we can then watch with awe as our lives begin to unfold in directions and ways we could not imagine."

A few months ago we began calling every Sunday "Friendship Sunday." This past Sunday we had a number of new people join us, some were out of town guests. Some were new to town. Please invite people, pick them up and bring them to service and activities. We **do** have a plan for children, when we can get them! (If we can have children on a regular basis, we can have a regular program! If you know they are coming, let us know!) Remember, *it is as you think it*, the Law of Mind Action. Unity Lincoln will be what you make it! Hold the vision in your mind and imprinted in your heart!

Blessings, ~ Rev. Toni

How Can We All Be Right?

by Georgia Feiste

I've had several conversations over the last few weeks with people who have differing viewpoints than I do. For the most part, we can get to a common point where we both have empathy, and find something we agree on. Sometimes it takes a while. That allows us to leave the conversation as friends and continue our lives with something to think about and nothing to feel badly about.

I have had several conversations with people who were so disrespectful, hateful and angry that I had to stop the conversation. I had to pray for them. I have had multiple chats with my best friend, the God of my understanding, over the last six months. Creative Spirit helps me understand that these people are so full of fear that their thoughts have been twisted toward others, blaming them for their situation. They are so stuck in fear that they can not see a way to move forward.

Back to my original question, though. **How Can We All Be Right?** I now know that there is no right or wrong, that what is occurring in this moment JUST IS. Our perceptions of what is real and what is not real are what is right for us in that moment. Our perceptions are based on our experience, what we know in the moment, and how much we have grown in our communion and friendship with Spirit.

This knowledge helps me as I endeavor to understand why people think, say and do the things they do. I can't say that I don't get angry when I see the damage that is done, the hate that is perpetrated, and the lack of humanity. But, I have noticed that I am much calmer now than I have been in the past, and more willing to ask questions in order to understand.

I also have to admit that I have pretty strong opinions about how people should be treated. And, about the health and welfare of our planet and all creatures that live upon it. The other day, one of the fearful ones told me I was a Marxist when I stated what I would like to see in this world. I had to laugh out loud. My response: "I just said what Jesus, the Christ, said in the Bible, what Buddha said, what Mohammad said in the Quran, what the Tao says. If that makes me a Marxist in any way, shape or form, then I guess I am a Marxist. And, I know it makes me a REAL Christian." So, perhaps, we were both right.

Blessings to all, ~ Georgia

Kudos to Mickey Seefeld!

Thank you to Mickey for the creation of wonderful cards and bookmarks to gift at offering time. Mickey has used her own artwork and photography to make our personalized handout cards. Since Rev. Toni offers a gift card each Sunday, there is lots of opportunity to be creative.



The Christ within assures my strength, energy and vitality.

We usually try to match the theme Sunday in some way, healing, prosperity, love. The talk title is published on the calendar in the newsletter and Rev. Toni can refine it for you if you want to join in the creativity. Positive, affirmative reminders, uplifting, loving messages, prayer focus helpers - that's what it's all about. If you are inspired, join Mickey and Rev. Toni in this creative ministry. Talk to Rev. Toni.



Solar Music Concert & Solar Eclipse at Unity Lincoln!

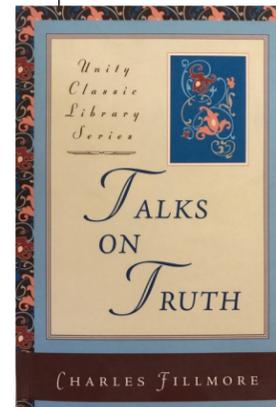
August 21st we will join in the ancient experience of viewing a solar eclipse. Total solar eclipses are rare events. It is estimated that they recur at any given place only once every 360 to 410 years, on average. Here in Lincoln, we will share this prime opportunity by gathering with friends in our garden. Bring your lunch to eat together as we experience the light shift. We will provide water and a dessert.

Observers will see approximately 1 minute 24 seconds of totality! At 11:37:17 am the partial eclipse begins. The total eclipse begins at 1:02:36 pm. At noon a special Solar Music Concert will entertain us as we watch the sky change. The whole transit is about two hours.

Eclipses have been interpreted as omens or portents down through the ages. Today we know that instead it is an opportunity for us to wonder at Creation and the world around us. The only ill effect is damage to the eyes if we look directly at the photosphere of the Sun (the bright disk of the Sun itself) even for just a few seconds, because of the radiation that the photosphere emits. Eye protection will be provided at our event. It is very important!

Talks on Truth - New Class - Tuesdays

Adeline Mickens begins a new class on Tuesday August 8th at 6:00 pm. Note that this is a different day of the week. The book, *Talks on Truth*, is a classic by Charles Fillmore. *Talks on Truth* presents fourteen enlightening talks by Unity's cofounder exploring the metaphysical aspects of Christianity and the basic principles of the Unity movement. We have several copies of the book in the library to borrow and free copies from Rev. Toni. (A love gift to UL would be appropriate.)



Finances- June 2017

Total Income: \$ 4,447
Total Expense: \$ 5,237
Net: (\$ 790)

Sources of Income*:-

Service Love Offerings: \$ 4,937
Classes: \$ 82
SCRIP Prosperity: \$ 57.65

*not intended to equal Total Income shown above

BULLETIN BOARD

New Members

Would you like to be a member of Unity Lincoln? We invite you to join us! Returning to Unity Lincoln after a time away? We welcome you back! Kindly RSVP to Unity Lincoln (402) 476-6887 or minister@unitylincoln.org.

Talk to the Board

If you would like to present an item to the Board of Trustees in person, please let a board member know. The Board will then reserve the first 10 minutes of its next monthly meeting to listen to you.

Email List

If you would like to receive emails of breaking news and last-minute schedule changes, send an email to us at office@unitylincoln.org and ask to be added to our weekly email list.

Online Tithing

You can contribute to Unity Lincoln online via the www.unitylincoln.org PayPal account. Log onto <https://www.paypal.com> and send your contribution directly to the Church's Online PayPal account by whatever method you like — credit card, checking account, or savings. Click on "Friends & Family" to waive the Paypal fee so that your entire gift goes to UL.

When you write to us

Mail you send us must include our P.O. Box, as follows:

Unity Lincoln
P.O. Box 30209
Lincoln, NE 68503-0209

To unsubscribe from this Newsletter

Write to us at the above address, or email office@unitylincoln.org. Please refer to the *printed* Newsletter in your note.

A Personal Sharing

My name is Marlow (Dan) Elsasser. I want to talk about the many things Christ Unity Church, now known as Unity Lincoln, has done for me.

I have been coming to this church for over 30 years.

After my wife (Donna) passed on Nov. 1st 2016, I didn't want to see anyone that was going to ask "How are you doing?" Now I could lie and say I'm doing great, or I could say: the last words she said to me that are stuck in my mind. The world is dark and nothing means anything. So I didn't want to be close to anyone or hug anyone because I could hardly smile.

Then God reached out through one of his angels and touched me on the back, handed me a card, just a simple little card. That said, I was surrounded by love, and I was right in the middle. And then another angel said, "I have to give this guy a hug," and suddenly there was light in my world in this little church.

God doesn't care about the size of the building. He just wants to touch as many of his children as he can through us.

A play on my friend John's words - "This I Believe!"

~ Dan Elsasser



Nominations for Board of Trustees Open

Unity Lincoln is looking for prospective board members. If you would like to serve on the board of trustees ask Rev. Toni for a handbook. The booklet includes the requirements from our bylaws, job description information and a questionnaire to help you discern whether to nominate yourself for the board. The Annual Selection Meeting of the Membership is October 15th, 2017. Nominees will be announced in next month's newsletter with biographies.



Tidying Up in September

Garden Clean Up - Saturday - September 9th, 9:00 am to finish (noonish). Bring your gloves, clippers, leaf bags, etc. We all know how it works! Together it is fun and goes fast!

Please Note!

Dr. Susan & Rev. Fujio Nakao with the Heartland Light Circle will not be joining us this month but will return again in September!

"True Light" offered by The Heartland Light Circle is a healing experience of being bathed in Light.

Sukyo (means "of universal principles") *Mahikari* (means "True Light"). *Sukyo Mahikari* has more than one million members in over a hundred countries.

www.sukyomahikari.org



Peace in the Midst
Thursday, September 14th

'I am Peace in the Midst of All Matters!'

Unity Celebrates the
24th Annual World Day of Prayer

We've begun to collect prayers to take to Unity Village on World Day of Prayer

'World Day of Prayer gives us an opportunity to come together in celebration of our oneness with God, each other, and our world.

Through prayer we foster peace and wholeness in our community and in our individual lives.'



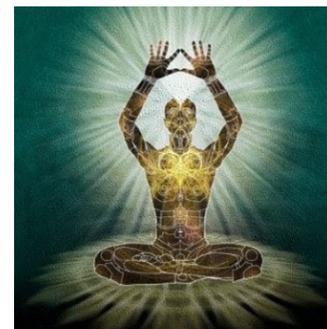
Tell Rev. Toni if you want to go together as a group!

Peace Meditation

"If There Is To Be Peace" by Lao Tzu

If there is to be peace on earth,
There must be peace among nations.
If there is to be peace among nations,
There must be peace among cities.
If there is to be peace among cities,
There must be peace in the neighborhoods,
If there is to be peace in the neighborhoods,
There must be peace in the home.
If there is to be peace in the home,
There must be peace in the heart.

I realize that peace must blossom in my heart to let it blossom in race consciousness. I focus time today on allowing the Eternal Presence within to express as peace. Peace suffuses my whole being, becomes my full focus and my essence.



Please take 15 minutes to invite this experience into your heart. Take hold of it, let it take hold of you, and let it be your Truth.

Love and blessings, ~
Rev. Sharri Johnson, RScP

Magic Pennies Report



Keep it up!
Great work everybody!

Magic Pennies Accounting

10/29/16	\$55.90
11/30/16	\$62.59
12/26/16	\$13.73
1/30/17	\$79.44
2/28/17	\$58.60
3/31/17	\$62.39
4/27/17	\$86.48
5/30/17	\$27.84
6/30/17	\$57.90
7/31/17	\$29.31

\$534.18



BOARD MEMBERS



Merry Ford, President



Kris Thaller, Vice-President



Janet Carlson, Secretary



Mickey Seefeld, Treasurer



Paul Fox, Member-at-Large



Connie Rose, Member-at-Large

Ministry Team Leaders:

- Bookstore — Annie Nuss, John Jones
- CAST — Cari Dicks, Merry Ford
- Community Care — John Jones
- Hospitality — Dee Tonniges, Liane Schmidt
- Leadership/Coaching — Kris Thaller
- Licensed Unity Teacher — Rev. Evan Coleman
- Music — Rev. Evan Coleman
- Prayer — Connie Rose
- Recording Team — Paul Fox, Bob Kaenel, Connie Rose, Janet Carlson, Adeline Mickens
- SCRIP — Paul Fox
- Website — Paul Fox, Rev. Evan Coleman
- Worship Team — Kris Thaller
- Worship Leaders — Fred Berry, Annie Nuss, Merry Ford, Kris Thaller, Carol Cunningham

Staff:

- Rev. Toni Stephens Coleman, Minister
- Rev. Fred Berry, Speaker
- Rev. Evan Coleman, Music Director
- Svetlana Yashirin, Pianist
- June Niemann, Office

 **This I Believe** by John Jones

I'm only human. She or he is only human. We've all heard that expression and probably used it ourselves. The thing is though, it denies our diversity. We know that we are one with or parts of the divine Creator, each having our own experience and at the same time sharing that experience with the Creator. The only way the Creator can experience his/her wonderful creation is through us. It's a big responsibility. Or is it a responsibility at all? After all, we have the free will to experience anything All or nothing or anything in between. Few of us will ever experience a spacewalk and only about half of us have the possibility of giving birth, but we are almost all able to experience the joys of nature, even if just watching the squirrels or birds. At this point I'd ask you to reconsider (once more) the third verse of *Home on the Range*. "How often at night where the heavens are bright, with the light of the glittering stars, have I stood there amazed and asked as I gazed, if their glory exceeds that of ours." Simple words from a simple farmer, but expressing from the heart, the wonders of all of creation. Or how about "Oh beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain." Katharine Lee Bates wonderful *America the Beautiful* goes on to extol the virtues and wonders of a divine idea, created with the ideas of freedom, mercy, brotherhood, and vision for the future. There is no mention of power or conquest, but a hope that our flaws be mended and every gain divine.

Somewhere along the line after that came an idea that "might makes right," "the end justifies the means" and even "if absolute power corrupts absolutely," that's okay because it's our absolute power. That it's all right to execute a few people who were innocent as we execute some of the guilty ones. Some wise person once said of a prisoner "there before the grace of God, go I." We are all one, having the choices that are presented to our humanness. Some make choices that others call 'wrong.' Always have, probably always will. Those who have acquired great wealth are usually punished differently for any 'crime' than those of lower social status who may commit the same transgression (make the same wrong choice).

It seems to be that many folks who already have plenty of everything, want someone else's part of everything too. More money, more power, more sex, more glory, and they are willing to use any means to get whatever they want.

Sometimes individuals will apologize if they are convinced that they have wronged the other, but I've noticed that nations and businesses hardly ever apologize for misdeeds. Now I've worked myself into a negative expression of my humanity, so this will end now.

Peace, love, & blessings, ~ **John**

John Jones' Book

This I Believe is now in print! John is preparing to make the circuit as an author to promote his book. It is the first of two books offering unique collections of John's witty writings which were first published in Unity Lincoln's newsletters. The book is quite beautiful and designed to fit in a pocket or purse for easy reading.

It will make a gift to be treasured for that special occasion or for the holidays. John has blessed Unity Lincoln's building fund with all proceeds from sales - So it's a win-win for everybody! Talk to John to get your copy and your gifts. If you can arrange an opportunity for John to present to your club or organization, talk to John or Rev. Toni. Let's get the book out there!.

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <h1 style="color: red;">Unity Lincoln</h1> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> <h1 style="color: red;">2017</h1> </div> </div>						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 11:45 am Prayer & Brown Bag Lunch 6:30 pm A Course In Miracles	3	4 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	5
6 <i>Friendship Sunday</i> 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics with Evan Coleman, LUT 10:30 am - Service talk: Listening 11:45 am Prayer Service	7	8 6:00 pm Talks on Truth class	9 11:45 am Prayer & Brown Bag Lunch 6:30 pm A Course In Miracles	10	11 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12
13 <i>Friendship Sunday</i> 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics with Evan Coleman, LUT 10:30 am – Service talk: Good Vibrations 11:45 am Board of Trustees meeting	14	15 6:00 pm Talks on Truth class	16 11:45 am Prayer & Brown Bag Lunch 6:30 pm A Course In Miracles	17	18 11:00 am Ministers Planning Team meeting 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	19
20 <i>Friendship Sunday</i> 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics with Evan Coleman, LUT 10:30 am – Service talk: Star Stuff 11:45 am Pot Luck Lunch	21 11:30 am Solar Eclipse Party 	22 6:00 pm Talks on Truth class	23 11:45 am Prayer & Brown Bag Lunch 6:30 pm A Course In Miracles	24	25 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	26
27 <i>Friendship Sunday</i> 9:00 am – 9:55 am Metaphysics with Evan Coleman, LUT 10:30 am – Service talk: Get Moving!	28	29 6:00 pm Talks on Truth class	30 11:45 am Prayer & Brown Bag Lunch 6:30 pm A Course In Miracles	31	~Child Care available – Sunday's 9:00 am – 11:30 am	